

Lions of Justice Mentorship Program Expands to Riverdale, GA

Riverdale, GA – The highly successful Lions of Justice mentorship program, initially founded in 2018 through a partnership between the Clayton County Magistrate Court and Clayton County Public Schools, is set to expand into Riverdale, GA. This impactful initiative, designed to foster mentorship and life skills in middle school male students, will begin its new chapter in the City of Riverdale, thanks to the leadership of Chief Judge Wanda L. Dallas and the full support of Clayton County School Superintendent Dr. Anthony Smith, alongside the full support of the Honorable Richard Brown.

The Lions of Justice program brings together 12 volunteer male mentors and 12 male middle school students from Riverdale to engage in interactive, hands-on activities aimed at building self-discipline, integrity, listening and speaking skills, and a deep sense of community. The mentors – including a retired judge, attorneys, law enforcement officers, entrepreneurs, and elected officials – volunteer their time and expertise to provide guidance, support, and positive examples for these young men.

The program's signature event, a “Mock Trial” graduation ceremony, sees students showcase their growth by presenting a mock trial, with law enforcement personnel and educators serving as jurors. This hands-on experience demonstrates not only academic growth but also personal development in qualities such as altruism and reasoning.

The program's success in Clayton County has been significant, with eight out of the original ten mentees progressing to high school and beyond. The upcoming Riverdale expansion aims to continue this legacy of success, providing a new generation of students with the opportunity to form strong, positive relationships with mentors who are committed to their future success.

Chief Judge Wanda L. Dallas expressed her full support for the program, stating, “This program empowers our young men to break through barriers and achieve greatness. A Lion of Justice is someone who courageously faces and overcomes any obstacle standing between themselves and their dreams.”

The official Lions of Justice program roll-out will take place on **Friday, May 2, 2025, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm** at the **Riverdale Municipal Court**, located at **7200 Church St, Riverdale, GA 30274**.

This expansion reflects a deep commitment to youth development, mentorship, and community engagement. The Lions of Justice program in Riverdale is just the beginning of a broader initiative to provide mentorship opportunities throughout Clayton County and beyond.

“This initiative shows just how much mentorship can shape the future of our youth. As the county seat, Jonesboro is proud to support the Lions of Justice as they inspire and guide the next generation of leaders,” said Councilman Alfred Dixon of Jonesboro, who served as a Mentor when the program first launched in 2018.

For more information or to get involved with the Lions of Justice mentorship program, please contact Chief Judge Wanda L. Dallas at wldallas@gmail.com

About the Lions of Justice Program

The Lions of Justice Mentorship Program is a unique initiative that pairs adult male mentors with middle school male students to cultivate self-discipline, integrity, and leadership qualities. Established in 2018, the program has made significant strides in positively impacting the lives of its mentees through a series of educational and community-building activities. This expansion to Riverdale marks a new chapter in providing young men with the resources they need to succeed.